

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW MURINE OPOSSUM FROM MARGARITA ISLAND.

BY OUTRAM BANGS.

While on the Island of Margarita, Venezuela, in the summer of 1895, Lieutenant Wirt Robinson, U. S. Army, collected five murine opossums. Four of these he presented to the National Museum at Washington and one to me. These specimens represent a very pallid insular race that may be known as—

***Marmosa robinsoni* sp. nov.**

*Type* from Margarita Island, Venezuela, ♂ adult, No. 7749, coll. of E. A. and O. Bangs. Collected July 12, 1895, by Lieut. Wirt Robinson, U. S. Army. Orig. No. 506.

*General characters.*—Similar to *M. murina*, but much paler and more yellow; black mark through eye less extensive; ear (in dried skins) considerably smaller; skull similar to that of *M. murina*.

*Color.*—Upper parts, clay color, becoming paler and more yellowish on sides; sides of neck and top of nose back to between eyes dull buffy yellow; black mark through eye less extensive and duller than in *M. murina*. Under parts, dull straw yellow to base of hairs; line of demarkation between colors of upper and under parts much less distinct than in *M. murina*; feet and hands dull yellowish white.

*Measurements.*

Number.	Sex.	Total length.	Tail vertebrate.	Hind foot.
7749 *.....	♂ adult .....	374.9	203	24.13
63209 †.....	♂ adult .....	370.8	210.8	
63210.....	♀ adult .....	320	175.3	

\* Coll. of E. A. and O. Bangs.

† Coll. of National Museum, Washington.

*Remarks.*—This insular murine opossum, which I have named in honor of its discoverer, may be readily distinguished from *M. murina* by its much paler, more yellow color and smaller ear. With *M. murina mexicana*, *M. robinsoni* agrees in having the middle of the face back to the eyes decidedly paler than the rest of the upper parts and in having small ears. It differs from *M. mexicana* quite as much in color as it does from true *murina*, and can be told at a glance from either.